conducted by the press that 3 out of every 5 voters favour choosing India's Chief Executive in a Direct election to ensure better control and performance and that Chief Executive of the States also to be elected in the same manner; and

(b) if so, what is Government's reaction in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI H. R. BHARDWAJ): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

Voting rights

30. SHRI SATYA PRAKASH MALAVIYA: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the question of granting voting rights to those who have attained the age of 18 years has been under the consideration of the Government; and

(b) if so, for how long and what are the details of the steps so far taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI H. R. BHARDWAJ): (a) and (b) The question of reducing the voting age to 18 years has been under consideration for over a decade. After taking into account all the aspects of the matter, Government have come to the conclusion that it is not practicable or advantageous to lower the voting age for some time. However, this matter is also likely to be discussed with the political parties as part of the general proposals for electoral reforms.

Vacancies of Judges in High Courts

31. SHRI SATYA PRAKASH MALAVIYA: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) how many vacancies of Judges are required to be filled up at present indicating the names of the High Courts and the date on which each of these vacancies arose; and

(b) how many posts of additional Judges were created during the last two years and in which High Court?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI H. R. BHARDWAJ): (a) Statement I showing the position is attached (*See* below).

(b) Statement II showing the position is attached. (*See* below).

Statement I

As on 1-4-1987

S. No.	Name of the High Court	Vacancies of Judges		Date from which vacancies in Cols. 3
		Permanent	Additional	
1	2	3	4	5
1	Allahabad	5	6	15-10-1984
				15-10-1984
				15-10-1984
				15-10-1984
				15-10-1984
				7-02-1985

1	2	3	4	5
				5-05-1986
				23-05-1986
				27-06-1986
				18-08-1986
				8-01-1987
2	Andhra Pradesh	1	2	26-11-1982
				29-11-1982
				19-08-1985
3	Bombay	4	..	17-06-1986
				1-07-1986
				10-11-1986
				13-11-1986
4	Calcutta	..	..	..
5	Delhi	2	..	20-08-1986
				3-12-1986
6	Gauhati	2	..	3-04-1986
				20-12-1986
7	Gujarat	1	3	7-06-1984
				26-06-1984
				2-04-1985
				3-12-1986
8	Jammu & Kashmir	..	..	..
9	Karnataka	1	..	1-10-1986
10	Kerala	..	..	..
11	Himachal Pradesh	1	1	23-9-1986
				1-03-1987
12	Madhya Pradesh	..	1	10-11-1986
13	Madras	5	..	1-06-1985
				10-03-1986
				10-08-1986
				3-09-1986
				23-10-1986

1	2	3	4	5
14	Orissa	2	1	1-03-1986
				24-06-1986
				26-06-1986
15	Patna	3	..	10-09-1986
				13-10-1986
				25-11-1986
16	Punjab & Haryana	6	..	1-08-1984
				24-05-1985
				12-03-1986
				11-07-1986
				16-07-1986
				21-01-1987
17	Rajasthan	..	1	23-07-1986
18	Sikkim	1	..	21-01-1986
	TOTAL	34	15	
	GRAND TOTAL		49	

Statement-II

Sl. No.	High Courts	No. of posts of Judges		
		Pmt.	Addl.	Total
1	Bombay	..	5	5
2	Calcutta	2	..	2
3	Gauhati	1	..	1
4	Kerala	3	..	3
5	Orissa	..	1	1
6	Rajasthan	3	1	4
	TOTAL	9	7	16